



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान मद्रास

Indian Institute of Technology Madras

[Home](#) [SiteIndex](#) [Feedback](#) [FAQ](#)

[About IITM](#) [Administration](#) [Academics](#) [Departments](#) [Research](#) [Resources](#) [Facilities](#) [Student Life](#) [Campus](#)

## Distinguished Alumni Awards

Distinguished Alumni Awards were presented to the following Alumni on 29-30 December 2004

1. Dr. Gangan Prathap (1999 Awardee)
2. Dr. Thomas G. Thundat (2004 Awardee)
3. Dr. Marti G. Subrahmanyam(2004 Awardee)
4. Dr. B. Ramachandra Pai(2004 Awardee)
5. Padmasri Dr. B. N. Suresh(2004 Awardee)
6. Mr. B. Santhanam(2004 Awardee)
7. Mr. Ashok Khanna(2004 Awardee)

### Citations

#### **Dr. GANGAN PRATHAP. 1974/BT/AE, 1977/PhD/AE**

Dr. Gangan Prathap is the Scientist-in-charge of the CSIR Centre for Mathematical Modelling Computer Simulation, Bangalore. He has an exceptional academic record including the first rank in 1969, and the President of India prize for the first rank in the B.Tech. degree programme of IIT Madras. In 1990, he was awarded the S S Bhatnagar Prize in Science and Technology. He has also won many awards and honours in his career.

He has over 90 publications in international journals to his credit with many among them receiving numerous citations. In particular, he has contributed significantly to the areas of non-linear structural mechanics, and finite element modeling. He has also authored books and numerous technical reports.

He is a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences, and the Indian National Science Academy. He has a Member in many professional societies and expert committees. He is also on the Editorial Board of several reputed international journals.

In recognition of the efforts, achievements and excellence in research of Dr. Gangan Prathap, IIT Madras and its alumni are proud to present him with this award.

30th December, 2004

Prof. M. S. Ananth  
Director

#### **Dr. Thomas Thundat. 1980/MSc/Phy**

Dr. Thomas Thundat is presently a Distinguished Scientist in Oak Ridge National Laboratory, USA.

simultaneously holds Professorships in the University of Tennessee, USA, and the University Bourgundy, France.

Dr.Thundat has invented, developed and patented many new technologies including the new molecular comb technology, a MEMS-based micro cantilever, pioneered the development of a novel class of physical, chemical and biological sensors, and contributed significantly to areas such as biological imaging nanolithography. He has seventeen operative patents to his credit, and seven more pending.

He has authored over 150 publications, and 20 book chapters. He has received over 25 prestigious awards during his career. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society (APS), and a Member of several professional Societies. He has also served as a consultant to many world-class organizations.

In January this year, TIME Magazine described Dr. Thundat as a leading innovator. He has also featured with special citations in BBC Television and written about in reputed international magazines as Discover, New Scientist, and Washington Times.

In recognition of the inventions, research efforts, innovations and achievements of Dr. Thomas G. Thundat, IIT Madras and its Alumni are proud to present him this award.

29th December, 2004

Prof. M. S. Ananth  
Director

**Dr. Marti G. Subrahmanyam. 1967/BT/ME**

Dr. Marti Subrahmanyam is the Charles E. Merrill Professor of Finance and Economics in the Stern School of Business at New York University. He has held visiting Professorships at leading academic institutions England, France, Germany and India, including INSEAD, France and Cambridge University.

He has published numerous papers in reputed journals and books in Corporate Finance, Capital Markets International Finance. He has served as Editor / Associate Editor of many international journals in the areas of Finance, Accounting and Management.

He has won several awards for excellence in teaching. In 2003, he received the Distinguished Teaching Medal from New York University.

Dr. Subrahmanyam has served as a consultant to several corporations, industrial groups and financial institutions in the USA, Europe, Asia and Latin America. He is also on the boards of leading companies India and abroad including the Murugappa Corporate Group, ICICI Bank Ltd., and Infosys Technologies Ltd. He has served as Advisor to international and government organizations.

In recognition of the efforts, achievements, and outstanding academic and professional contributions of Marti G. Subrahmanyam, IIT Madras and its Alumni are proud to present him this award.

30th December, 2004

Prof. M. S. Ananth  
Director

**Dr. B. Ramachandra Pai. 1965/BT/ME**

Dr. B. Ramachandra Pai was the Director of the National Aerospace Laboratories, Bangalore. He started career as a research engineer at the English Electric Company, U. K., and later moved to the International Flame Research Foundation, Holland, as a Senior Research Investigator before joining NAL in 1975.

He has been an outstanding researcher in combustion, heat transfer, air breathing propulsion systems components, and computational fluid dynamics. He has to his credit 6 Patents, over 75 publications reputed journals, and over 35 technical reports. His major achievements include R & D support to Kaveri engine project for the LCA programme, and development of a power pack based on aero engines. He has also worked on developing low cost industrial gas turbines.

He has developed innovative devices of general utility such as fluidized bed grain disinfector and drier, fluorescent tube based water purification equipment for domestic use, and solar collector using ferrocement blocks.

He is a member of many professional and technical Societies. He is also a keen flying enthusiast with liking for powered hang gliders.

In recognition of his efforts, achievements and contributions to R & D, IIT Madras and its Alumni are proud to present him this award.

30th December, 2004

Prof. M. S. Ananth  
Director

**Dr. B. N. Suresh. 1969/MT/ME**

Dr. B. N. Suresh is the Director of the VSSC, Trivandrum. He was among the key staff in the SLV-3, ASLV, PSLV and GSLV projects in India.

He has made significant R&D contributions in engineering sciences, particularly in the area of Aerospace engineering, focusing on complex technologies (both hardware and software) used in Launch Vehicles the Space Navigation Guidance and Control System, Aerospace Control Actuation Systems, and Integrated Simulation for Aerospace System.

He has to his credit over 75 research papers and 500 technical reports in rocket control and guidance systems, and space navigation. He has been associated with national and international professional bodies and organized many Symposia, Conferences and Workshops.

He has earned many awards including the Dr. Biren Rai Space Science Design Award in 1993, the 'AGNI' award from the Ministry of Defence in 1999 for excellence in Self Reliance, and the 'ASI Award 1996' from the Astronautical Society of India in 2000. In 2001, he received the 'Padmasree' from the President India, in recognition of meritorious services in the area of Science and Technology.

In recognition of the research efforts, achievements and contributions to national technological excellence of Dr. B. N. Suresh, IIT Madras and its Alumni are proud to present him this award.

30th December, 2004

Prof. M. S. Ananth  
Director

**B. Santhanam. 1978/BT/CV**

Mr. B. Santhanam is the Managing Director of Saint Gobain Glass India. With his exceptional technical, human and conceptual skills he is an admired leader in the Indian Business environment.

He started his career in Grindwell Norton in 1980, and soon became the youngest member of Management Board. When in 1996, Saint-Gobain decided to acquire the ownership of Grindwell Norton, Santhanam was chosen to develop a strategic blue print for the venture. He became the Founder Managing Director of Saint-Gobain Glass India. In a short span of six years, he led the transformation of a green site into a world class integrated glass manufacturing complex, surpassing many records in quality, efficiency and profitability. His company has been rated by Hewitt Associates amongst the Best in India terms of HR practices, Leadership, and Value to Society.

He is now the Vice Chairman of CII, Tamil Nadu State Council, a Member of the Management Council, Madras Chamber of Commerce & Industry (MCCI), and a Member of the CII Governing Council Industry-Institute Interface.

In recognition of the efforts, achievements, and managerial excellence of Mr. B. Santhanam in the Indian industry, IIT Madras and its Alumni are proud to present him this award.

30th December, 2004

Prof. M. S. Ananth  
Director

**Ashok Khanna. 1967/BT/ME**

Mr. Ashok Khanna is the Managing Director and Director (Technical) of the Controls & Switchgear group of companies, which he co-founded while still a student at IIT Madras. His great vision, pure determination and dedication, helped fulfill his dream of promoting in India international quality in the field of power distribution, generation, automation and control. His group is a world class electrical engineering project management and component manufacturing group in the country. It has India's only mail order service, featuring a 2000-page catalogue for industrial components. Today, the group has 2000 employees including 350 qualified and trained engineers, and 10 manufacturing plants in and around Delhi equipped with latest technology. Some of the world's most renowned electrical engineering companies have sought collaborate with his company and have joint ventures.

He served as a member of the Indian Standards Institution's Committee for formation of standard specifications on traffic signs. He is a founder member of the Small Industries Electrical Industry Association and has served on the Boards of national chambers of commerce, industry associations clubs.

In recognition of the outstanding entrepreneurship, leadership and professional accomplishments of Ashok Khanna, IIT Madras and its Alumni are proud to present him this award.

30th December, 2004

Prof. M. S. Ananth  
Director



*From left: Dr.Gangan Prathap, Padmasri Dr. B. N. Suresh, Mr. Ashok Khanna, Prof.M.S.Ananth(Director), Dr. B. Ramachandra Pai, Mr. B. Santhanam, Dr. Marti G. Subrahmanyam and Prof.K.N.Satyanarayana (Advisor, Alumni Affairs)*



*Dr.Thomas G. Thundat (left) receiving the award form Prof.S.V.Raghavan (Dean, Planning)*

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